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URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF
BENTLEY-with-ARKSEY

Twenty-Seventh
ANNUAL REPORT

of the

SANITARY INSPECTOR

for 1951

by

J. T. BRIGGS
M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.

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SANITARY INSPECTOR, 1951

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Bentley,
Near Doncaster,
8th May, 1952.

To the CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my report for the year 1951.

The normal nature of the work has continued from the previous year.

One feature of note was the commencement of the municipal dustbin scheme following the difficulty of enforcing Section 75, Public Health Act, 1936. This scheme is now working smoothly and all arrears have been overcome.

Once again I wish to thank the staff for their help in this work, the Chairman and Members of the Council and Dr. Ferguson for their unfailing support throughout the year.

Yours faithfully,
J. T. BRIGGS,
Sanitary Inspector.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

Medical Officer of Health.

J. FERGUSON, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Sanitary, Housing and Petroleum Inspector.

J. T. BRIGGS, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.
Sanitary Inspector's Certificate
Sanitary Science Certificate
Meat and Food Inspector's Certificate
Smoke Inspector's Certificate

Assistant Sanitary Inspector.

L. HAY, M.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.,
Certificate of the Sanitary Inspectors' Joint Board.
Meat and Food Inspectors' Certificate.
Smoke Inspector's Certificate.

Clerk.

J. WRIGHT (Mrs.)

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA.

GENERAL

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections
No. of visits made	4914	870
,, complaints received	377	
,, complaints confirmed	305	
,, letters in lieu of notices ...	19	
,, verbal notices	287	
,, informal notices	162	
,, statutory notices	42	
,, letters and notices outstanding ,, on 31st December, 1951 ...	39	
,, matters referred to Surveyor	17	

Area : 4,961 acres.
Population : 19,826 (1951 census).

SUMMARY OF VISITS.

Slaughterhouses	298	
Meat and Food Inspections	333	
Accumulations	4	
Animals and Poultry	1	
Atmospheric Pollution	59	
Ashplaces & Dustbins	624	94
Backroads	3	
Bakehouses	30	
Cesspools	5	
Closets - Water	44	32
Closets - Pail and Privy	6	
Clubs and Licensed Premises	32	
Coal Gas nuisances	2	
Dairies	83	
Drains	287	71
Drains tested	5	
Factories	9	
Fish Friers	32	
Food preparing places	47	
Food Stores and Shops	139	
Food Vans	6	
Houses re Scarlet Fever	28	2
,, Diphtheria	1	1
,, Poliomyelitis	1	1
,, Tuberculosis	108	
,, Sub-Tenants	98	
,, Exchanges	59	
,, Overcrowding	5	
,, Dirty conditions	12	12
,, Bugs	12	15
,, other Vermin	27	30
Housing Act	60	314

	Inspections.	Re-Inspections
Ice Cream Manufacturers	36	
Ice Cream Retailers	127	
Interviews	106	
Kitchens and Canteens	33	
Knackers Yards	46	
Moveable Dwellings	139	
Moveable Dwelling Sites	77	
Offensive Trades	45	
Petroleum	4	
Piggeries	2	
Prospective Council Tenants ...	264	
Rats and Mice	264	
Sampling :		
Ice Cream - Bacterial Test ...	239	
Milk - Bacterial Test	95	
Milk - Biological Test	10	
Milk - Chemical Test	42	
Water - Chemical Test	14	
Water - Bacterial Test	23	
Sanitary Inspections	147	273
Sewage Works	8	
Sewers	17	
Shops Act	97	3
Smoke Observations	29	
Special Visits	396	
Streams, Watercourses and Ponds ...	42	
Street Gullies and Channels	4	
Tips	67	
Urinals	1	
Vacated Council Houses	27	
Water Supplies	39	9
Yards	14	13

IMPROVEMENTS CARRIED OUT UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH AND HOUSING ACTS.

HOUSES — INTERNAL

Balustrades repaired	1
Bath waste pipes renewed	2
Coppers renewed	7
Copper brickwork repaired	1
Copper fireplaces repaired	4
Doors repaired or renewed	5
Fireplaces—Cooking ranges renewed...	31
,, Hearths renewed	3
Fireplaces renewed	11
,, Surrounds renewed	4
Firebacks renewed	5
Firebars renewed	4
Fireplaces—Smoke nuisances cured ...	13
,, Ovens renewed	6

Floors repaired and renewed	36
Gas pipes renewed	2
Plasterwork repaired	36
Sinks and wash basins renewed	4
Sink Waste Pipes renewed	6
Skirting Boards renewed	4
Walls rebuilt	1
Woodworm treatments	2
Water Supply Systems : —	
Back boilers renewed	2
Cold water tanks renewed	4
Hot water cylinders renewed ...	1
Pipes renewed	12
Taps renewed	6
Water supplies improved	4
Dirty and Verminous Houses :—	
Cleansed	1
Disinfested for bugs	11
Disinfested for other forms of vermin	24

HOUSES - EXTERNAL

Chimneys repaired	8
Chimney pots renewed	4
Damp walls cured	31
Dustbins renewed	624
Eaves spouts renewed	52
Flashings renewed	4
House walls repaired	9
Rain Water pipes renewed	42
Roofs repaired or renewed	35
Roofs - Bay Window - repaired ...	4
Window fasteners renewed	2
Windows repaired	12
Window sashes repaired	7
Window sashcords renewed	156
Steps repaired—Flights	2
Yards repaved	10
Yard walls rebuilt	7

COALPLACES

Doors and frames repaired	2
Roofs repaired	2
Eaves spouts renewed	1

CLOSETS

New water closets provided	5
Basins renewed	10
Cisterns repaired or renewed	21
Doors and frames repaired	2
Flush pipes repaired or renewed	2
Floors and steps repaired	5

Roofs repaired	4
Eaves spouts renewed	1
Seats renewed	3
Walls repaired	3
Pail closets cleansed	2
Water closets cleansed	6

DRAINS

Cleansed	157
Constructed	8
Reconstructed	17
Inspection chambers repaired ...	9
Inspection chamber covers renewed ...	12
Inspection chambers provided ...	2
Ventilation renewed	1
Cesspool cover renewed	1
Sewers cleansed	8

GENERAL

Accumulations removed	5
Dykes cleansed	4

Work Carried out on Default of Owners.

Public Health Act 1936, Section 39.

Repairs to a drain at a cost of £24/1/5d.

Prosecutions.

Public Health Act 1936, Section 269.

Occupier of land for using land as a site for a moveable dwelling without licences and exceding the statutory period. Fined £1 and ordered to clear the site within six weeks.

Appeals.

Public Health Act 1936, Section 269.

Owner of moveable dwelling appealed against the refusal of the local authority to grant licences to use land as a site for a moveable dwelling and to station and use a moveable dwelling. Appeal allowed on condition that licences are reviewed periodically.

Property Repairs.

The position regarding property repairs still remains a serious matter. Costs have risen, shortage of materials still exist, some essential materials being very difficult to obtain, and the type of labour for repair work is in short supply. In spite of these drawbacks much work has been done and many houses made reasonably fit.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Water Supply.

All houses in the district, with the exception of ten on shallow wells and four on boreholes, are on the public supply, of these, sixteen are served by standpipes.

Fourteen samples were taken for chemical analysis, six from shallow wells, four from boreholes and four from the public supply. Thirteen were satisactory and one from a borehole was of doubtful purity. All the well waters were very hard.

Twenty-three samples were taken for bacterial testing, sixteen were satisfactory, three doubtful and four unsatisfactory. All samples from the public supply were satisfactory.

Closet Accommodation.

All properties within reach of the sewers are on the water carriage system. There are eight privies and twenty-five pail closets, all well out of range of the sewers.

Cleansing of Drains.

The arrangements for cleansing drains still continue and are working satisfactorily and such nuisances are rapidly abated.

Municipal Dustbin Scheme.

During the year 1950, there were successful appeals by three property owners against statutory notices requiring the provision of dustbins to house property. In addition to these appeals property owners and agents had indicated that the service of statutory notices would be followed by appeals so the Council decided that the position should be considered with the idea of the local authority providing dustbins.

After studying different systems it was decided that a rate borne scheme would be the most equitable and efficient and that it should start on the 1st April, 1951.

Since that date all renewals of dustbins at domestic properties have been made through the new scheme and up to the end of the year 624 dustbins have been supplied.

Flooding.

Although there has been heavy and continuous rain at times during the year there has been no risk of flooding. The internal water has been drained away rapidly through the new surface water drainage system and the level of the river has never reached a dangerous height. There is no doubt that the anti-flood measures on the River Don have proved effective.

Verminous Premises.

The following premises were treated for vermin :—

Type of Vermin	Council Houses	Private Houses
Bugs	6	5
Blackclocks	6	3
Cockroaches	3	1
Ants	10	—
Earwigs	1	—
Woodworm	—	1
Crickets	Council Tips 2	—

The houses were treated with liquid D.D.T. and Gammexane powder, with satisfactory results. The house containing woodworm was treated by a private firm, but the infestation was so extensive in the staircase that new strings had to be fitted. The cricket nuisance on the tips was abated with gammexane powder.

Liquid D.D.T. was used with good results in food preparing places and slaughter houses against the fly nuisance.

Rodent Control.

This work has been carried out on the usual lines with very good results. There seems to have been fewer rats than during last year, but much more movement of smaller numbers and individuals. Complaints have been fewer, and all the well known nesting sites have received constant attention. The sewers have not been bait tested this year and on inspection no evidence of rats was found.

Details of rat treatments :—

Premises treated	21
Baiting points	294
Baits laid	1076
Poison baits laid	294
Bodies found	450
Estimated kill	1600

Atmospheric Pollution.

The three instruments set up by the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research to gauge the exent of atmospheric pollution in this area were in operation throughout the year. According to the results there is an increase in the amount of solids and sulphur. It may be said that the abnormal rainfall washed more solids into the gauge and caused an increase in the amount of total solids. This result was confirmed by the lead peroxide candle and the smoke filter machine.

Investigation of Atmospheric Pollution Analyses.

Month	Rain in Inches	Insoluble Deposit Tons/Sq. Mile	Soluble Deposit Tons/Sq. Mile	Total Solids Tons/Sq. Mile	Sulphur mg/100 sq cms./day
January	1·92	7·47	7·50	14·97	1·59
February	2·37	7·09	6·12	13·21	0·93
March		Bottle broken in transit			0·77
April	0·70	7·44	5·25	12·69	0·87
May.....	4·20	10·63	7·58	18·21	0·60
June	0·92	7·40	4·24	11·64	0·81
July	1·72	10·57	5·35	15·92	0·52
August	4·30	6·08	6·67	12·75	0·61
September	1·18	5·07	3·65	8·72	0·76
October	1·34	6·71	6·25	12·96	1·16
November	5·26	5·63	12·85	18.48	1·34
December	1·67	7·09	8·16	15·25	1·64
Average per month	2·32	7·38	6·68	14·06	0·97

Smoke Observations.

Twenty-nine obervations were taken of the Bentley Colliery chimney. Additional secondary air inlets have been inserted into some of the boilers but other modifications have to be carried out before the scheme can be thoroughly tested. At the end of the year there was very little improvement.

Burning Colliery Tip.

The volume of smoke and fumes from the tip has varied from dense palls to almost clear periods. Selection of sites for tipping on the main tip and the extensive use of fine water sprays have been tried out in an effort to abate this nuisance. Towards the end of the year there was a great improvement.

Moveable Dwellings.

There are eight sites containing seventeen vans which are licensed and kept in conformity with the Council's requirements, an increase of one site and one van.

One person appealed against the refusal of the local authority to grant licences for the use of land as a site for a moveable dwelling and to station and use such a dwelling. The appeal was allowed subject to periodical review. Another person was prosecuted for using land as a site for a moveable dwelling, he was fined £1 and ordered to clear the site in six weeks.

A large number of gipsy type van dwellers used the side roads and country lanes during the year. They are a nuisance to the inhabitants and leave the sites in a filthy conditions with evidence of nuisance and damage all round.

Canteens and Kitchens.

A survey of the washing-up arrangements of the schools in the district was made in order to see the type of equipment and cleansing materials in use and the methods employed. It

was found that, with few exceptions, the equipment was inadequate for efficient cleansing and that improvements could be effected. The Education Authority was notified and at the end of the year the position was being reviewed so that greater safety and efficiency could be obtained with more modern equipment and routine.

Offensive Trades.

Bone Boiler and Blood Drier ...	1

There was no new application for consent to the establishment of an offensive trade.

Petroleum.

Thirty two licences were issued for storage of petroleum in bulk.

MILK AND DAIRIES ACTS AND ORDERS.

Dairymen and Dairies.

Retailers taken off the register	1
Retailers entered on the register	Nil
Retailers on register 31st December, 1951 ...	11
Premises on register 31st December, 1951 ...	4

The dairies not situated on farms were inspected regularly and were kept in a satisfactory manner.

Milk (Special Designations) Regulations, 1949.

Dealers licences for sale of :—

Pasteurised Milk	7
Tuberculin Tested Milk	7
Sterilised Milk	19

Supplementary licences for sale of :—

Pasteurised Milk	3
Tuberculin Tested Milk	2
Sterilised Milk	3

SUPERVISION OF THE FOOD SUPPLY FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938.

Slaughter Houses.

There are five slaughter houses and one knackers yard licensed for use, one slaughter house is used exclusively for the slaughter of horses for human consumption. Private slaughtering ceased after January, 1941, when war-time control of slaughtering was centralised in public abattoirs.

Public Health (Meat) Regulations, 1924.

These have been properly observed with regard to notices.

Special notices from slaughter houses	29
Special notices from other premises	6

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933.

Humane slaughtering of all animals in accordance with the Act is in force throughout the district.

No. of slaughterman's licences issued	24

Milk Sampling.

Under the West Riding County Council's scheme your Sanitary Inspector carries out the sampling of milk in this area for chemical analysis. Forty-two samples were taken, but because of breakages in the post, only thirty-seven could be analysed and these were found to be genuine.

Registered Food Premises.

Manufacture of Ice Cream	1
Retailing of Ice Cream or Lollipops	36
Preparation or manufacture of sausages, potted, pickled, pressed or preserved foods	16
Fish Friers	16

All these premises were inspected regularly and found to be kept in a reasonable state of cleanliness. During the warm weather some of them were treated with compounds containing D.D.T. to combat the fly nuisance with very good results. The ice cream factory is a model of its kind and is kept in very good order.

Mobile Shops.

Two mobile shops operate from this area, one as a butcher's shop which is complete with hot water apparatus and sink. The other one is a fried fish shop without a hot water system, but hot water is used at certain points on the round.

Meat and Food Inspections.

Visits to Slaughter houses	298
Inspections of Meat and Food	333
No. of Condemnations	213

Animals Slaughtered :

Cows	6
Pigs	47
Horses	1462

Condemnations.

Horses—Carcases and Offals—36	28,702 lbs.	
,, —Forequarters—1	240 lbs.	
,, —Livers—49	686 lbs.	
,, —Hearts—3	24 lbs.	
,, —Tongues—1	8 lbs.	
Beasts—Carcases and Offal—2 ...	856 lbs.	
,, —Heads—1	28 lbs.	
,, —Lungs—2	20 lbs.	
,, —Livers—1	14 lbs.	
,, —Tongues—1	6 lbs.	
Pigs—Lungs—1	2 lbs.	
,, —Fats—1	2 lbs.	
Jams, Lemon Curd etc.—27 jars	27 lbs.	8 ozs.
Fruit—33 tins	52 lbs.	11 ozs.
Vegetables—236 tins	320 lbs.	2 ozs.
Meat—128 tins	752 lbs.	14 ozs.
Milk—57 tins	49 lbs.	
Fish—4 tins	1 lb.	5 ozs.
Soups—4 tins	2 lbs.	14 ozs.
Meat and Fish Pastes—1 tin ...		3½ ozs.
Pickles—2 jars	3 lbs.	2 ozs.
Sauces—3 bottles		11 ozs.
Bovril—5 jars	1 lb.	4 ozs.
Baby Food—48 tins	13 lb.	8 ozs.
Coffee—10 tins	3 lbs.	1 oz.
Cheese Spread—14 packets ...	3 lbs.	8 ozs.
Eggs—36	4 lbs.	8 ozs.
Cheese	13 lbs.	
Milk Powder	40 lbs.	
Cake	32 lbs.	8 ozs.
Rabbits—34	71 lbs.	
Sausage	139 lbs.	
Pork	30 lbs.	
Ham	3 lbs.	
Black Pudding	8 lbs.	
Fish—Cod	51 lbs.	
	32,209 lbs.	11½ ozs.

Ice Cream.

Registered Premises :—

Manufacturers ... 1 Retailers ... 36

The one factory in the district is equipped with the most modern machinery and the most hygenic methods of working are in operation. Samples of ice cream taken from different processes covering all operations were found to be in Grade One.

Sampling of Food for Bacterial Test.

Ice Cream.

Grading on Methylene Blue Test (All types)

Grade 1	226	95·36%	99·15%
,, 2	9	3·79%	
,, 3	2	0·85%	0·85%
,, 4	—	Nil	
	237		
Raw Chocolate ...	2		
	239		

Wrapped Choc-Ices :

Grade 1	35	89·74%	94·87%
,, 2	2	5·13%	
,, 3	2	5·13%	5·13%
,, 4	Nil	Nil	

These samples were taken from all retailers and the factory and the results are very satisfactory. The choc-ices show a greater percentage of lower grading than the ordinary type ice creams, but there is a great improvement on last year's figures. Two samples of chocolate were submitted to the plate count test and were found to be satisfactory. The manufacturers and health departments concerned were notified of these results.

MILK.

Samples for Bacterial Test.

Type	No. of Samples	Satis-factory	Unsatis-factory
Ordinary	24	23	1
Graded T.T. Pasteurised	18	17	1
,, T.T. Certified	3	3	—
,, Pasteurised	21	21	—
Sterilised	29	29	—
Biological - Raw Milk	10	9	1
	105	102	3

Ordinary Milks (Raw).

Time of Decolourisation	Summer Time	Winter Time
Under 1 hour	—	—
Between 1 hour and 2 hours	—	—
Between 2 hours and 3 hours	—	—
Between 3 hours and 4 hours	—	—
Between 4 hours and 5 hours	—	1
Between 5 hours and 5½ hours	—	—
Satisfactory	9	14

Graded Milks.

No. of Samples	Type	Methylene Blue Test	Phosphatase Test	Remarks
21	Pasteurised	Over 5½ hours	Group 1	Satisfactory
17	T.T. Pasteurised	Over 5½ hours	Group 1	Satisfactory
1	T.T. Pasteurised	Under 1 hour	Group 1	Not satisfactory
3	T.T. Certified	Over 5½ hours	—	Satisfactory

Sterilised Milk.

No. of Samples	Methylene Blue Test	Turbidity Test	Remarks
29	Over 5½ hours	Good	Satisfactory

Biological—Raw Milks.

These samples were taken from farms from which milk was sold in the raw state as a routine and preventative measure. All but one were satisfactory and the final certificate for the unsatisfactory sample has not yet been received.

Summary.

The number of satisfactory samples was very good and an improvement over other years, there being 97·9% of satisfactory milks.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

1. Cases Notified and Investigated.

Cases Notified	29
Cases Removed to Hospital	29

Classification.

Scarlet Fever	27
Diphtheria	1
Poliomyelitis	1

Distribution.

Ward	Scarlet Fever	Polio-myelitis	Diph-theria
Toll Bar	—	—	—
New Village	6	—	—
Arksey	1	—	—
Old Bentley	2	—	—
Bentley Road	8	1	—
North Road	10	—	1
TOTALS	27	1	1

2. Tuberculosis.

New Notifications	23
No. on Register 31st December, 1951 :	
Pulmonary	115
Non Pulmonary	44

3. Disinfections.

Houses	26

Housing Acts 1936—Overcrowding.

Very few complaints of overcrowding were received but this does not indicate that overcrowding does not exist. Such cases as there are cannot be relieved until sufficient houses have been provided, meanwhile, the housing application list remains at a high level.

Housing Acts 1925 - 1936—Clearance Areas.

The two last houses of the 1934 clearance areas have now been demolished and the site cleared. This clears up the pre-war clearance work. No further work has been done under this heading since the war commenced.

Housing Act 1936—Section 11.

An undertaking was accepted from one property owner that two houses would not be used for human habitation after being vacated by the present occupants. These houses were unfit and could not be made fit. One house has now been vacated.